

Atty. Docket No. 10015160-1



#5 Response
M. Brunson
7/22/02
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ping MEI et al.

Examiner: H. Weiss

Serial No.: 09/934,548

Art Unit: 2814

Filed: August 23, 2001

FOR: **THIN FILM TRANSISTOR MEMORY DEVICE**

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

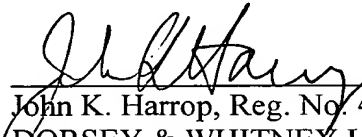
Sir:

In response to the April 17, 2002 Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group I drawn to a semiconductor device. The election is made with traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of claims 1-6 (Group III) and 7-20 (Group I) is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of the Group I claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the Group III claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the search and examination of both Groups I and III can be made without serious burden. See M.P.E.P. §803, which states that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits" (emphasis added). Applicants respectfully submit that this policy should apply in the present invention in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to the Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 16, 2002


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